



PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Docket No: A7753

Robert W. GREER IV

Appln. No.: 09/360,951

Group Art Unit: 2877

Confirmation No.: 4898

Examiner: Amanda H. MERLINO

Filed: July 27, 1999

For: COLORED RADIATION CURABLE COATING COMPOSITIONS FOR
IDENTIFYING TELECOMMUNICATIONS ELEMENTS AND
TELECOMMUNICATIONS ELEMENTS COATED THEREBY

PRELIMINARY REMARKS

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Further to the Notice of Appeal filed April 3, 2003, please consider the remarks below.

Claims 1-12 and 25-27 are all the claims pending in the application.

Claims 1-12 and 25-27 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,074,643 to Petisce in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,298,189 to Szum, *et al.* ("Szum").

At page 3 of the Action mailed October 3, 2002, under the heading "Response to Arguments," the Examiner specifically addresses the arguments set forth in the Amendment filed June 21, 2002. While the Examiner agrees that Szum does not specifically disclose covalently bonding a chromophore molecule to a coating, the Examiner believes that it would have been obvious to covalently bond a chromophore molecule to a coating based on Szum's disclosure.

Applicant respectfully disagrees. For the reasons that follow, Applicant respectfully submits that the combination of Petisce and Szum does not render obvious the claimed invention.

A proper analysis under §103 requires, *inter alia*, consideration of whether the applied art